

What Is Claimed Is:

1. A flexible fluid containment vessel for the transportation of cargo comprising a fluid or fluidisable material, said vessel comprising:

5 an elongated flexible tubular structure having a circumference comprised of at least two fabric segments having a width which is smaller than a width of the tubular structure;

means for rendering said tubular structure impervious;

said tubular structure having a front end and a rear end;

means for sealing said front end and said rear end;

10 means for filling and emptying said vessel of cargo;

means for joining said segments together;

15 said means for joining comprising a first upright member on a surface of one segment along an edge thereof; a second upright member on a surface of a second segment along an edge thereof; aligning said first and second upright members, means for sealing a space between said first and second segments and means for securing said first and second upright members together.

2. A vessel in accordance with claim 1 wherein said upright members

20 are generally C-shaped and said means for sealing a space includes a means having respective complimentary shaped portions to receive said C-shape.

3. A vessel in accordance with claim 2 wherein said means for sealing a space has generally an I-shape.

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4. A vessel in accordance with claim 3 wherein said clamping means comprises a generally U-shaped clamp which maintains said C-shape members in a clamping arrangement with each other and the I-shaped sealing means therebetween.

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5. A vessel in accordance with claim 2 wherein said upright members are formed from the edge of the segment.

5 6. A vessel in accordance with claim 2 wherein said upright members are fixedly secured to the edge of the segment.

7. A vessel in accordance with claim 6 wherein said upright members are maintained within an overlap formed from the edge of the segment.

10 8. A vessel in accordance with claim 7 wherein said overlap is sewn or glued to the surface of the segment.

9. A vessel in accordance with claim 1 wherein a length of said segment is equal to that of the circumference of the tubular structure.

15 10. A vessel in accordance with claim 1 wherein said means for securing said members together includes stitching said members together.

20 11. A vessel in accordance with claim 10 which further includes rope as part of the stitching.

12. A method of joining at least two segments of material together comprising the steps of:

25 providing at least two segments of material each having a surface and an edge;

creating respective upright members at the respective edges of the segment;

aligning said respective upright members and providing a sealing means therebetween; and

30 clamping or affixing said respective upright members together.

13. The method in accordance with claim 12 wherein said segments comprise fabric.

14. The method in accordance with claim 13 wherein said upright  
5 members are created in generally a C-shape.

15. The method in accordance with claim 14 wherein said sealing means is generally I-shaped.

10 16. The method in accordance with claim 15 wherein said clamping is provided by a generally U-shaped clamp which clamps the C-shaped members to each other with the I-shaped sealing means therebetween.

15 17. The method in accordance with claim 13 wherein said upright members are formed from the edge of the segments.

18. The method in accordance with claim 13 wherein said upright members are formed separately and fixedly secured to the edge of the segments.

20 19. The method in accordance with claim 18 wherein said upright members are formed out of fabric and are generally C-shaped and are fixedly secured to the edge of the segment.

25 20. The method in accordance with claim 19 wherein said C-shaped members are maintained within an overlap formed from the edge of the segments.

30 21. The method in accordance with claim 20 wherein said overlap is sewn or glued to the surface of the segment.